

REMARKS

Applicants thank the Examiner for the thorough consideration given the present application. Claims 1 and 3-10 are currently being prosecuted. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider his rejections in view of the amendments and remarks as set forth below.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants gratefully acknowledge that the Examiner considers claims 2-8 and 10 to contain allowable subject matter, if rewritten in independent form and to overcome the infiniteness. Although not conceding the appropriateness of the Examiner's rejections, claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 2. Accordingly, claims 1 and 3-10 are now in condition for allowance.

Claim Language

The Examiner points out that the word "saidsecond" is one word. It should be corrected in four places. This has now been accomplished.

Rejection under 35 USC 112

Claims 2-8 and 10 stand rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. The Examiner pointed out misspelled words and the use of "saidsecond" and lack of proper antecedent

basis. By way of the present amendment, Applicants have attempted to correct all of these errors.

It is noted that the Examiner states that he is providing a marked-up copy of the claims. Applicants have not received a copy of this paper, and it also cannot be located in Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR). Accordingly, Applicants have attempted to find the mistakes themselves. If the Examiner is aware of additional changes that need to be corrected, it is respectfully requested that he contact the undersigned, so that the additional changes can be made in order to make the application allowable.

Rejection under 35 USC 103

Claims 1 and 9 stand rejected under 35 USC 103 as being obvious over Hacklander et al. (U.S. Patent 2,158,562) in view Albrecht et al. (U.S. Patent 5,005,504). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

By way of the present amendment, Applicants have added the contents of claim 2 to claim 1. Since the Examiner indicated that this claim would be allowable if rewritten into independent form, Applicants submit that claim 1 is now allowable over these references. Likewise, claims 3-10, which depend from claim 1, are likewise allowable.

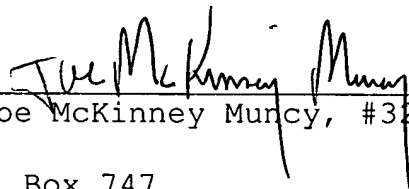
Conclusion

In view of the above remarks, it is believed that the claims clearly distinguish over the patents relied upon by the Examiner, either alone or in combination. In view of this, reconsideration of the rejection and allowance of all claims are respectfully requested.


If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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